

NEWSLETTER

HOME/FURNITURE/DESIGN

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China's Lamp Exports Rebound in May After Early-Year Slump

China's lamp and lighting fitting exports reached RMB 97.78 billion (\$14.38 billion) in January–May 2026, down 12.6% year on year. May alone saw exports of RMB 21 billion, up 12.2% month on month, marking a second consecutive monthly rebound. The sector had previously posted RMB 76.79 billion (\$11.29 billion) in January–April, with April surging 52.3% from March. **(General Administration of Customs)**

German Timber Exports to China Plunged 57.9% as Prices Surged 38.1%

China imported 168,000 cubic meters of timber from Germany in January–April 2026, plunging 57.9% year on year. Import value fell 41.8% to \$47.51 million, while the average unit price jumped 38.1% over the same period. The sharp volume decline coupled with soaring prices signals a significant structural shift in bilateral wood trade. **(General Administration of Customs)**

China's Building & Decoration Material Retail Sales Drop 13.6% in May

Retail sales of building and decoration materials reached RMB 10 billion in May 2026, down 13.6% year on year. Cumulative sales for January–May totaled RMB 50 billion, marking an 8.4% decline from the same period last year. The deepening monthly contraction highlights persistent weakness in China's property-related consumer demand. **(National Bureau of Statistics)**

China's Home Improvement Foot Traffic Surges 35% in May on Holiday Boost

The "foot traffic index" for China's building materials and home furnishing stores jumped to 213.23 in May 2026, up 55.67 points month-on-month and 4.47 points year-on-year. The surge was driven by the May Day holiday shopping spree combined with the rollout of local home appliance and furniture trade-in subsidy programs. **(China Building Materials Circulation Association)**